FILED

MAR 09 2015

N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

JOHN J. HOFFMAN
ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street, 5th Floor
P.O. Box 45029
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the Board of Nursing

By: Barbara J.K. Lopez
Deputy Attorney General
(973) 648-7454

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION : OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF :

Administrative Action

Alyssa L. Rettinger, RN License #26NR15359300

ORDER OF SUSPENSION
OF LICENSE

TO PRACTICE NURSING IN.
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating the following:

- 1. Alyssa L. Rettinger ("Respondent") is a Registered

 Professional Nurse (RN) in the State of New Jersey and has been
 a licensee at all relevant times. (Exhibit A).
- 2. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with the Board on or about October 27, 2013. The agreement required,

in part, that Respondent enroll in and comply with the Board's designated intervention program, the Recovery and Monitoring Program ("RAMP"), to undergo evaluation, monitoring, and treatment, including random screens. The agreement, which was to remain private and confidential unless and until the Board received reliable information that Respondent had violated any term, was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. (Exhibit B).

- 3. Respondent underwent screens on March 7, 2014, May 8, 2014, and May 21, 2014, all of which yielded positive results for alcohol, a potentially addictive substance. (Exhibit C).
- 4. From January 2014 July 2014, Respondent failed to check-in on at least fifteen occasions with the online monitoring system which requires daily check-ins and randomly schedules screens. During that same period of time, Respondent failed to undergo two randomly scheduled screens. (Exhibit C).
- 5. Respondent failed to attend multiple peer support meetings in June and July 2014. (Exhibit C).
- 6. As of July 18, 2014, Respondent ceased participation with RAMP; Respondent did not successfully complete the program nor was she released from the program. (Exhibit C).
 - 7. RAMP cannot assure the Board or the public that Page ${f 2}$ of ${f 5}$

Respondent is safe to practice. (Exhibit C).

- 8. On or about February 5, 2015, a communication was sent to Respondent at her address of record by overnight and regular mail, advising Respondent that the Board had received information indicating that she was not in compliance with the private letter agreement and with her agreement with RAMP.

 Respondent was further advised to provide the Board with proof of any inaccuracy in that information within two weeks.

 (Exhibit D). No response was received.
- 9. The private letter agreement signed by Respondent provided for automatic suspension of Respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that Respondent had violated any term of the private letter agreement. The agreement states that Respondent may, upon notice to the Board, request a hearing to contest the automatic suspension; however, at any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding Respondent's violation of the agreement was materially false. The Board also reserved the right to bring further disciplinary action. (Exhibit B).
- 10. Respondent violated the private letter agreement by: failing to refrain from the use of potentially addictive

substances as evidenced by her multiple positive screens; failing to undergo multiple randomly scheduled screens; failing to attend Peer Support meetings; and failing to remain in RAMP until successful completion of the program or release from the program. Each violation of the private letter agreement constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), and automatic suspension of her license as provided in the private letter agreement.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this A day of March, 2015, HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State of New Jersey is hereby suspended for her violation of the terms of the private letter agreement as set forth above, which is a violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).
- 2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, request a hearing, upon notice, on the sole issue of whether information received that Respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement was materially false.
 - 3. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her $\label{eq:page-4} \text{Page-4 of 5}$

New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall not entertain any application for reinstatement without a demonstration by Respondent that she is fit and competent to practice, in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement and with any agreement with RAMP, and that RAMP supports her reinstatement.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

Patricia Murphy, PhD, AP

Board President